

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Original): A line information database (LIDB) disposed within a public switched telephone network (PSTN) comprising:

a first collection of invariant data persisted in individual records in the LIDB, each of said records having an association with a subscriber in the PSTN;

a second collection of variable data persisted in said individual records in the LIDB, said variable data having been produced in an application deployed outside of the PSTN in a data communications network; and,

a query interface to retrieve said variable data from the LIDB and to persist variable data in the LIDB.

Claim 2 (Original): A system for managing variable data through line information database (LIDB) access in a public switched telephone network (PSTN), the system comprising:

a LIDB coupled to a service control point (SCP) in the PSTN;

an enterprise application deployed outside of the PSTN in a data communications network;

a gateway node communicatively coupled both to said SCP in the PSTN and to said enterprise application in said data communications network; and,
cookie writing logic communicatively linked to said enterprise application and programmed to write variable data to said LIDB in the PSTN.

Claim 3 (Original): The system of claim 2, further comprising logic communicatively linked to said enterprise application to retrieve from said LIDB variable data associated with a caller placing a call to a called party accessing said enterprise application.

Claim 4 (canceled)

Claim 5 (currently amended): A The method of claim 4, further for managing variable data through line information database (LIDB) access in a public switched telephone network (PSTN), the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a call from a caller over the PSTN;
establishing said call and subsequently terminating said call;
collecting variable data produced during said call;
persisting said collected variable data in a record in the LIDB associated with said caller;
retrieving variable data from a record in the LIDB associated with said caller prior to establishing said call; and,
utilizing said retrieved variable data during said call.

Claim 6 (currently amended): A The method of ~~claim 4~~, for managing variable data through line information database (LIDB) access in a public switched telephone network (PSTN), the method comprising the steps of:

_____ receiving a call from a caller over the PSTN;
_____ establishing said call and subsequently terminating said call;
_____ collecting variable data produced during said call; and,
_____ persisting said collected variable data in a record in the LIDB associated with said caller;

wherein said collecting step comprises the step of collecting said variable data in an enterprise application coupled to a gateway node in the PSTN.

Claim 7 (currently amended): A The method of ~~claim 4~~, for managing variable data through line information database (LIDB) access in a public switched telephone network (PSTN), the method comprising the steps of:

_____ receiving a call from a caller over the PSTN;
_____ establishing said call and subsequently terminating said call;
_____ collecting variable data produced during said call; and,
_____ persisting said collected variable data in a record in the LIDB associated with said caller;

wherein said persisting step comprises the step of accessing logic in a gateway node in the PSTN programmed to post data storage messages through the PSTN to the LIDB via a service control point (SCP).

Claim 8 (canceled)

Claim 9 (currently amended): A The machine readable storage having stored thereon a computer program for managing variable data through line information database (LIDB) access in a public switched telephone network (PSTN), the computer program comprising a routine ste of instructions which when executed by the machine cause the machine to perform of claim 8 further comprising the steps of:

receiving a call from a caller over the PSTN;

establishing said call and subsequently terminating said call;

collecting variable data produced during said call;

persisting said collected variable data in a record in the LIDB associated with said caller;

retrieving variable data from a record in the LIDB associated with said caller prior to establishing said call; and,

utilizing said retrieved variable data during said call.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A The machine readable storage having stored thereon a computer program for managing variable data through line information database (LIDB) access in a public switched telephone network (PSTN), the computer program comprising a routine ste of instructions which when executed by the machine cause the machine to perform of claim 8 the steps of:

receiving a call from a caller over the PSTN;

establishing said call and subsequently terminating said call;

collecting variable data produced during said call; and,

_____ persisting said collected variable data in a record in the LIDB associated with said caller;
wherein said collecting step comprises the step of collecting said variable data in an enterprise application coupled to a gateway node in the PSTN.

Claim 11 (currently amended): A ~~The~~ machine readable storage having stored thereon a computer program for managing variable data through line information database (LIDB) access in a public switched telephone network (PSTN), the computer program comprising a routine step of instructions which when executed by the machine cause the machine to perform ~~of claim 8~~ the steps of:

_____ receiving a call from a caller over the PSTN;
_____ establishing said call and subsequently terminating said call;
_____ collecting variable data produced during said call; and,
_____ persisting said collected variable data in a record in the LIDB associated with said caller;

wherein said persisting step comprises the step of accessing logic in a gateway node in the PSTN programmed to post data storage messages through the PSTN to the LIDB via a service control point (SCP).